

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and remarks which follow are responsive to the non-final Office Action rendered December 10, 2004 in relation to the above-identified patent application. In that Office Action, the Examiner acknowledged receipt of the previously filed restriction response in which Applicant elected Group I, Claims 1-17 and 33. Claims 18-32 and 34-35 have been withdrawn from consideration. Of those claims, all but Claim 12 were allowed. In this regard, the Examiner also rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, as well as 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to provide an adequate description of the invention and failing to adequately teach how to make and/or use the invention. The Examiner further requested a minor correction in Claim 1.

By this amendment, Applicant hereby cancels Claim 12 without prejudice. Applicant has also made the correction to Claim 1 as requested by the Examiner.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding matters have been addressed and that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Early notice to that effect is respectfully requested. To the extent the Examiner has any questions, requires additional information, or has any suggestions to resolve any outstanding issues; he is invited to contact Applicant's counsel at the number listed below.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/10/05

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